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Thank you so much for your donation to the COB (Children of Bukati) project. This picture is of the pivotal family that stimulated school outreach project – not because they were unique, but because I captured their photo. I wanted to share their story with you – and knew a photo would help.

In February, I visited home after home just like this one. Each home has many children and the adults cannot afford the school uniform, the pen or the pencil for all of the children to go to school. We visited this home at noon, when the children were home for lunch. The children in green and white uniforms are going to school. They were born to the woman who lives in this home. The other children are AIDS orphans who are being cared for by the woman. The two little ones are her daughter's children. I am not sure whether the others are related or if they are just orphans in the village with no-where else to go. I was struck by the generosity of the Kenyans. Although almost half of the children in this county are orphaned, all of the children have been taken into someone's home. Unfortunately, the people are poor subsistence farmers, living on less than one dollar a day. They do not have the money to properly feed and clothe the children.

This is the same family in June. The two in green tops are Canadian veterinary students volunteering in Africa



In February, the man and woman in this home were caring for 12 children. There was one mud hut and an outhouse that had collapsed onto itself. There is no running water, no electricity and little food to eat. As I left the compound the woman said "May God go with you". I was struck by how much I had in life compared to this woman who struggles so hard to raise her children and the AIDS orphans too. When I visited in June, she was caring for 13 children (5 of whom were pre-schoolers). The good news was that she had a new outhouse.

The children in this home go to the Bukati Primary School – the focus of our outreach project. There are 320 AIDS orphans at the school, and many other in the community who need an education. It will cost \$150 to provide school lunches, a uniform, pens and pencils for one child for one year. Our goal is to raise at least \$360,000. So far, we have raised \$ 30,000. In February we will start the lunch program at the school. We can empower these children through education to make a better life for themselves and their community. If you know of someone who wishes to donate, please ask them to make the cheque payable to Stone United Church and put Kenyan Outreach on the memo line. (address for Stone: 119 Harris St., Rockwood, ON N0B 2K0 attention Peter Guthrie)

Thank you again for your generous donation.

It is people like you who are making a difference in the lives of these AIDS orphans